Introduced by Senator Padilla

February 24, 2012

An act-relating to transportation to amend Section 343 of the Public Utilities Code, relating to electricity.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1533, as amended, Padilla. Transportation. *Electricity: energy crisis litigation*.

Existing law, until January 1, 2013, requires the Attorney General to represent the Department of Finance and to succeed to all rights, claims, powers, and entitlements of the Electricity Oversight Board in any litigation or settlement to obtain ratepayer recovery for the effects of the 2000–02 energy crisis. Existing law additionally prohibits the Attorney General from expending the proceeds of any settlements of those claims, except as specified.

This bill would delete the repeal of the above-described requirements. Existing law provides various funding sources for transportation purposes.

This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would assist local governments with transportation needs, congestion relief, and improving the movement of goods and persons throughout the state.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no-yes. State-mandated local program: no.

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The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 343 of the Public Utilities Code is amended to read:

- 343. (a) The Attorney General shall represent the Department of Finance and shall succeed to, and may exercise, all rights, claims, powers, and entitlements of the Electricity Oversight Board in any litigation or settlement to obtain ratepayer recovery for the effects of the 2000–02 energy crisis. This section does not require the Attorney General to litigate any claim, or take any other action, as successor to the Electricity Oversight Board.
- (b) The Attorney General shall not distribute or expend the proceeds of any settlements of claims described in subdivision (a), except in accordance with Article 9.5 (commencing with Section 16428.1) of Chapter 2 of Part 2 of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code and Division 27 (commencing with Section 80000) of the Water Code.
- (c) The Attorney General shall not distribute or expend the proceeds of any settlements of claims allocated to the Electricity Oversight Board.
- (d) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2013, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2013, deletes or extends that date.

SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would assist local governments with transportation needs, congestion relief, and improving the movement of goods and persons throughout the state.